



## COVID-19 Virus Update – Monday 6 April 2020

Dear Families,

I am waiting for the Department of Education to come out with a definitive statement regarding school operation in Term 2 but in the interim, I believe that we will be in a similar situation as current. That is that schools will be open primarily for the children of essential workers and if you can keep your children at home please do so.

These limitations may change if the situation with COVID-19 changes over the coming weeks, so please monitor media for announcements about schools in coming weeks.

### School closure – holidays

Our school will be closing at 3:05pm Thursday 9 April 2020 and resuming on Tuesday 28 April 2020 for Term 2. On-line learning will recommence and work packs will be available in front of the Office from Tuesday 28 April 2020.

### Virtual Easter Hat Parade

A reminder to have your Easter Hats ready for our 'virtual Easter Hat Parade'. We are asking that you send your teacher a photo of the finished creation being worn so that we can make an Easter Parade movie (dressing up and costumes optional). Photos need to be sent in by 3pm Tuesday to provide time for the creation of the movie which hopefully we can post on Thursday. Please remember that **this production may be shared publicly so be certain that you are happy for your child's photo to be included.**

### Devices available for loan

For families who have limited access to technology, we have developed a loaning agreement to access one of the school's Chromebooks. At school we have limited numbers of devices which we are able to loan on a **one per family basis**. As you can appreciate, this resource really should only be accessed by families that have no other alternative. If you would like to avail yourself of one of these devices please phone the Office to reserve a device. A formal loan agreement will need to be signed as this will help us track who has which device. Please allow 48 hours for processing.

### Student – Teacher contact

It is great to hear from our students and see some of the work that they have been completing. Please ensure that your child sends through their work samples for their teacher to provide feedback on. Staff are also making phone calls home to touch-base with students. It would be great if you can put your device on to speaker phone so that the teachers and students can have two-way conversations during these opportunities.

### Zooming for Learning

The NSW Department of Education has come to an agreement with the supplier of the interactive platform, Zoom to enable schools to conduct interactive meetings between school and home. I would encourage you to have a look at Zoom in the coming weeks as it is likely that this will be a system which we will be using in the near future. No need to sign-up at this point but you may find it useful to become familiar with the features of the program.

91.67% absent from Gillo PS today!

Mr David Crowe